



CAMANO ISLAND FIRE & RESCUE

WORKING TOGETHER TO SAFELY PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY'S LIVES AND PROPERTY

April 7, 2020

Dear Ms. Grone:

We are concerned about recent support around the state for the extension of the property tax deadline and we support your decision to not offer an extension to Island County residents based on these reasons. 83% of our budgeted income comes from property taxes, and our budget is structured on the receipt of that income. We have debt obligations that are due around the time of disbursement of these funds, delays could result in default. Our cash flow is predicated on receiving a large influx of funds every 6 months, and a delay would have a pronounced effect.

These unusual times are certainly affecting everyone's finances, but it is these very times that are stressing our budget as well. We have to be prepared for a large increase in calls to our department over the coming weeks, which means additional purchases, overtime, more paid part time employees, more service work on our equipment, more expenses for PPE, and so on.

We cannot have a delay in income and continue to provide the services we think are going to be necessary to respond to this pandemic. The Commissioners of Island County Fire Protection District #1 (Camano Island Fire & Rescue) would like to go on record as opposing any delay in property tax collections.

Paul Williams
Chair, Board of Commissioners
Camano Fire & Rescue